

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 17, 20, and 26 to more clearly claim that which is considered the invention. No presumption should be drawn from these amendments as to the patentability of the original claims.

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VERSION OF THE CLAIMS WITH MARKED-UP CHANGES

1 1. (Amended) A system comprising:

2 a non-volatile data storage device, configure as one or more storage regions, to
3 store one or more bytes of data;

4 a program store communicatively coupled to the data storage device, the
5 program store to store one or more processor-readable instructions to ascertain the
6 validity of ~~the~~ data stored in the non-volatile storage device and if invalid to replace the
7 data with an earlier stored valid image of the data; and

8 a processing unit ~~couple~~ coupled to the storage device and program store, to
9 read and process the one or more instructions in the process store.

1 2. (Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the processing unit is configured to
2 processes-process the instructions in the program store as part of ~~its~~ a start-up
3 procedure.

1 3. (Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the data stored in the non-volatile
2 data store is ~~the~~ a Basic Input Output System (BIOS) for a processing device.

1 10. (Amended) A method comprising:

2 reading ~~the~~ current content ~~currently~~ stored in a non-volatile storage device;
3 determining if the current content has been modified without authorization; and
4 replacing the current content with a previously stored valid image of the content if
5 the current content is determined to have been modified without authorization.

1 11. (Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

2 reading the valid image of the previously stored content; and
3 comparing the previously stored content to the current content to determine if the
4 current content has been modified.

1 17. (Amended) A method comprising:

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2 arranging a non-volatile storage device into one or more storage regions;
3 generating an integrity metric corresponding to ~~the~~ valid content stored in a first
4 region of the non-volatile storage device; and
5 storing the integrity metric to later determine if the content in the first region has
6 been modified without authorization.

1 20. (Amended) A method comprising:

2 arranging a non-volatile storage device into one or more storage regions; and
3 comparing the current content in ~~the~~ a first region to an earlier stored image of the
4 content in the first region; and
5 replacing the current content stored in the first region with the previously stored
6 content of the first region if it is determined that there was an unauthorized modification
7 of the current content.

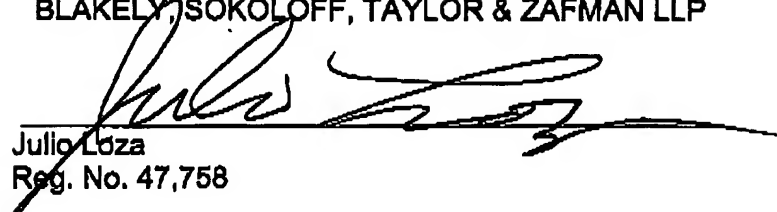
1 26. (Amended) A machine-readable medium having one or more instructions for
2 ~~secure~~protecting content in a non-volatile storage device against unauthorized use,
3 which when executed by a processor, causes the processor to perform operations
4 comprising:

5 reading ~~the~~ current content currently stored in a non-volatile storage device;
6 determining if the current content has been modified without authorization; and
7 replacing the current content with a previously stored image of the content if the
8 current content is determined to have been modified without authorization.

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